



Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse E-News

Email: Whitehorse@nhw.com.au

June 2014

www.nhw.com.au/whitehorse

Creating Safer Communities

Red Nose Day – 29 June:

Red Nose Day, held annually on the last Friday in June, is the major fundraiser for SIDS and Kids. Funds raised through Red Nose Day activities assist SIDS and Kids in providing vital services and programs to the Australian community. SIDS and Kids is dedicated to saving the lives of babies and children during pregnancy, birth, infancy and childhood and to supporting bereaved families.



Important NHW addresses and dates

Web: www.nhw.com.au/whitehorse

Including the latest Whitehorse Police Crime Trends and Incidents

Email: whitehorse@nhw.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nhw.vic

Crime Stoppers: Phone 1800 333 000

**In an emergency: Phone 000 (Triple Zero)
OR 112 from a mobile (no pin required)**

**Radio broadcasts: 3rd Monday of each Month
on 3WBS 94.1 FM
(except the month of June)**

**Next Safe Plate Day
Saturday 4 October 2014
10.00am to 3.00pm
at Bunnings Vermont South**

Emergency - Call 000 or Mobile 112 (no pin numbers required)

NHW, Laburnum LPO, PO Box 5005 Laburnum 3130

Phone: NHW Whitehorse 0418 596 831

WHITEHORSE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER

Have you heard about the Whitehorse Community Register?

This is an initiative to promote greater security for older Whitehorse residents

Graeme Elder, NHW Victoria Inc. Secretary
will talk about the Register

4.30pm on Wednesday 18 June 2014
Where: Wattle Park Chapel Hall
Cnr Elgar Road and Milton Crescent (parking at rear)

All Whitehorse residents are invited and will be made most welcome
Followed by afternoon tea
Contact: Gwenda Smyth at gsmyth5@bigpond.com

Please come along and support the hard working volunteers who run the Register.
All are fully trained and your details are maintained at the
Box Hill Police Complex for access in an emergency only.



Photos: Chris Summers

Handy hints – road rage

Courtesy: Whitehorse Leader 12.5.2014

Road rage can be a problem we all face when driving. Follow these basic steps in the event you come under threat,

Victoria Police Go 4 Zero tips to avoid road rage and stay safe while driving.

- Remain in your car at all times.
- Obtain the registration number and report the incident to police.
- If you're in fear, **call Triple 000**.
- If you are being followed, **do not go home**.
- **Do not** turn off and drive into unfamiliar areas.
- Drive to a police station or service station where you can get help and attract attention.







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Crime Trends and Incidents Eastern Region Division 1 - Whitehorse

19 – 25 May 2014	26 May – 1 June 2014	2 – 8 June 2014
<p>Arson 3 reports across Whitehorse. Two relating to tyres being set alight at units under construction in Nunawading. The other incident was at Mulluana College in Mitcham where a shade sail was set alight</p>  <p>Courtesy: baddice.co.uk</p>	<p>Residential burglaries 18 incidents across Whitehorse. Three offenders entered unlocked premises while victims were working in the garden. Offences occurred in Mitcham, Nunawading and Blackburn North. All had wallets, handbags and cash stolen. Two burglary reports on premises under construction/renovation in the Box Hill area between 9-12am. Daytime/morning burglaries reported in Box Hill South.</p>	<p>Residential burglaries 11 reported incidents across Whitehorse. 2 in Blackburn, 2 in Vermont South and 2 in Mitcham. One in Mont Albert had 2 male suspects sighted – gained entry via open window and stole 2 laptops and jewellery. 4 reported incidents in Burwood where the offender used ladders found onsite to gain entry by removing tiles from the roof.</p>
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<p>Theft from motor vehicle 19 reported incidents. One in Box Hill CBD where offenders smashed a side window and stole a wallet containing \$1000. A wallet and phone stolen from a vehicle parked in a church carpark on cnr of Statin & Cambridge Sts – smashed window. Purse stolen from the front seat of an unlocked car at Bunnings Nunawading. Another vehicle in Burwood East had stereo speakers and a GPS stolen – also unlocked.</p>	<p>Theft of motor vehicle 7 reported. A Kia station wagon stolen from Blackburn South, a Mazda from Box Hill. Offenders still targeting Audis and other luxury vehicles across the metro area.</p>  <p>Photo: autospeeds cars.blogspot.com</p>	<p>Theft 20 thefts reported. One victim withdrew \$15000 cash from ANZ Box Hill Centre. She continued to shop, when an Indian looking man told her she had sauce on her back and handed her a tissue. She placed her bag on a seat to clean the mess. He picked up the bag and absconded. It is believed the victim was watched from inside the bank.</p>
<p>Theft of motor vehicle 7 reported incidents. Offenders targeted 2 Audis in Box Hill North. Side windows were smashed and service manual removed from the glove boxes. The valet keys were not located and offenders left the vehicles .</p>  <p>Photo: Audi Valet Transponder key</p>	<p>Theft 9 reports across Whitehorse with several occurring in Box Hill CBD. Two reports of purses stolen from handbags together with credit card being subsequently used. Two street robberies occurred in Box Hill. Two male victims were approached by 4 males. Victims were punched to the face and mobile phones and wallets stolen.</p>	<p>Theft from motor vehicle 25 reported incidents. The majority were in Blackburn around Goodwin St, Pope Rd, Langtree Crt, Esdale and Francis Streets, with offenders targeting unlocked vehicles in driveways. 5 reports in Mont Albert in area of High St, Trafalgar and Curlewis Streets.</p> <p>Lock your vehicles</p>
<p>Please visit NHW Whitehorse website to read the full Crime Trends Report</p>	<p>www.nhw.com.au/whitehorse</p>	<p>Theft of motor vehicle 7 reported thefts. Stolen from Blackburn South, Mitcham, Burwood, Box Hill and Forest Hill</p>

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THE POLICE LINE —

from Senior Sergeant Tim Hardiman

10 June 2014

Victoria Police is committed to the development of building strong relationships with youth in our community.

According to the bureau of statistics, there are more than 197,000 young people 24 years or under currently residing in Whitehorse, Manningham, Boroondara and Monash municipalities.

We understand the need to embrace commitment to maintaining and developing new ways to engage and promote healthy living for our youth.

As police, we have a dedicated team of Youth Resources Officers (YRO's) committed to the ongoing development of community youth

projects together with the management of Police initiatives aimed at assisting our future generations to grow.

I recently attended a youth forum in Glen Waverley attended by the Honorable Mr Ryan Smith; State Minister for Youth Affairs together with our YRO's, youth focused community groups and local government representatives.

I left the meeting with a positive mindset, witnessing firsthand the professional conduct and intelligence of local youth representatives who are overwhelmingly, the vast majority of our overall youth population.

Initiatives such as the recent 'Respect Soccer Tournament' managed by our own Manningham YRO Senior Constable Wilson involving over 100 young participants from varying backgrounds, is just one example of the dedication our police are showing to the ongoing development of our youth.

We will continue to embrace new initiatives and dedicate our resources, bringing together police and our key partners to identify and implement positive initiatives for the good of our community and the improvement of youth engagement.

Regards,

Tim Hardiman, Senior Sergeant

OIC Proactive Programs Unit, Eastern Region Division 1



Two laughs a minute

The copper pulled up next to the guy unloading garbage out of his ute into the ditch. The copper asked, "Why are you dumping garbage in the ditch? Don't you see that sign right over your head." "Yep," he replied. "That's why I'm dumpin' it here, 'cause it says: 'Fine For Dumping Garbage.'"

Nothing to do with safety – maybe it does?

Look what happens when we cut down too many trees. Global warming is one thing, but look at what is happening as we continue to clear our forests. We have to stop cutting down trees. This is getting 'BL....' serious!



www.blog.ca

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Driveway parking

Courtesy: RACV magazine

If I am parked on private property with part of my car across the footpath, what is wrong with that?

Answer: While there are no rules directing how you park on your residential land, the Victorian Road Rules specifically prohibit stopping on a footpath, bicycle path, shared path or nature strip. Exceptions are provided for motorcycles (under certain conditions) if a parking control sign allows it and for speed camera operators.

While many people believe their driveway extends from their garage or carport to the roadway, you are only allowed to park on the part of the driveway within the private property boundary, even if there is no public footpath to block.

The key thing to remember is paths are there for a reason and no part of your vehicle should be parked over one. Able-bodied pedestrians may be able to squeeze past in the remaining space, but prams, children on bicycles, wheelchairs and the vision-impaired will need the full width of unimpeded footpath to get by safely.

Therefore a driver is not allowed to park across a driveway or in the crossover, even if they live at the residence, unless the driver is picking up or dropping off passengers. In this case a 2 minute time limit applies.

Please do not park across a footpath or allow your family, friends or tradespeople to block the footpath outside your property – not even just a little bit



www.walk.com.au

Beware

Credit cards are being used illegally. I received a text on my mobile from NAB Security Fraud Department. I was suspicious so deleted the text. At lunchtime the same day, I received a phone call from the NAB Security Fraud Dept. On further questioning and being very suspicious, we established that the text and phone call were genuine. The NAB had detected irregular activity on my Visa account and immediately put a block on the account. You guessed right – my Visa card was immediately cancelled. Somebody had purchased \$4000 worth of clothing from the UK on my account – at 3.00am Saturday morning.

A true story - Editor

So, check your Visa card entries weekly

**Road toll is still up on this time last year
Come on drivers and pedestrians, we can do better**

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The May NHW Broadcast on 3WBC 94.1FM featured Peter Alford, Area Manager of Rangeview, which encompasses four smaller areas.

Please tune in on the 3rd Monday of each month at 9.30am for a very interesting 15 minutes.



Anchorman Peter Cassidy

Photos: Chris Summers



Do you know what an engine immobiliser is?

An engine immobilizer is an electronic device that interrupts the power supply to two or more systems that are required to start a vehicle. The vehicle will not start unless the correct electronic signal is provided by the ignition key, a transponder or a coded plug. The signal to de-activate the system changes constantly, making it virtually impossible to 'crack'.

Quality immobilizer devices are certified as meeting the Australian Standard for Vehicle Immobilisers (4601:1999) The Standard was designed to ensure that the immobilizer cannot be easily overcome by thieves and will not affect the safe operation of the vehicle.

An engine immobilizer is not an alarm. An alarm is designed to make noise when a thief tampers with a vehicle. An immobilizer is designed to stop the vehicle being started and driven away.

How can you tell if a car has an immobiliser

The easiest way to tell if a car has an immobilizer is there will be a small, red LED light that flashes when the immobilizer is activated, indicating that the system is armed. The light will generally be positioned in the dashboard of older cars and often in the driver's door of newer model cars.

A brochure is available at: <http://www.carsafe.com.au/motorists/publications/brochures>

Thanks to the **NMVTRC** the following Auto Electricians within the division have generously offered to supply and fit **Immobilisers** for **\$220-00**, heavily discounted from more than \$350-00.

Strathfield Vehicle Solutions

1300 809 090

Victorian Security Services

9443 8062 OR 0411 650 384

These two businesses offer a mobile service

Boomerang Auto Electrical services (Box Hill Nth)

9898 5420

Aim Auto Electrical (East Burwood)

9803 0180

Tint a Car (Mont Albert)

9808 4567

Clayton Auto Electrics (Clayton)

9544 8919 from May 2014

LSC Steve Grimshaw reports: Theft of motor vehicles is an issue in Eastern Region Division One. A large portion of these vehicles are older and valued at \$2000-\$4000. Often young owners can't afford to insure them and those with total loss/destroyed cover, inevitably provides for an excess payable that is cost prohibitive.

Brochures are also available in Greek, Arabic and Korean from
www.carsafe.com.au/motorists/publications/brochures

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Drug offences up in Whitehorse and Manningham

Courtesy: The Weekly Review 4.6.2014

Whitehorse have recorded increases in Drug offences or 42.2%. Residential burglaries 4.2% Commercial/retail burglaries 17.1% Theft of motor vehicles 6.5% Theft from motor vehicles 9% BUT a reduction in – Assaults 11.2% Property damage 13.4% Robbery 22.5%	Manningham have recorded increases in Drug offences 46.4% Burglaries 31.2% Theft from motor vehicles 20.1% Theft of motor vehicle 21.2% Increase of 139.7% in other crime including breaching of an intervention order and failing to appear on bail was partly to blame.
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Is your bicycle safe?

Courtesy: Whitehorse Leader 31.3.2014

Tens of thousands of bicycles are stolen each year, with almost half taken from around the home. Eighty percent of stolen bikes were unsecured when left unattended.

- Always lock your bike, even at home or if you are leaving it for a very short time
- Lock it to a fixed, immovable object like a parking meter or permanent bike rack, in a well lit area.
- Use a good quality combination D-lock and locking cable.
- Ensure your bike is insured.
- Secure components and accessories, especially quick-release components such as wheels, with a secondary cable lock.
- Stolen bikes can be returned to their owners if engraved with your licence number (with initial 'V' for Victoria before it) on the bike.

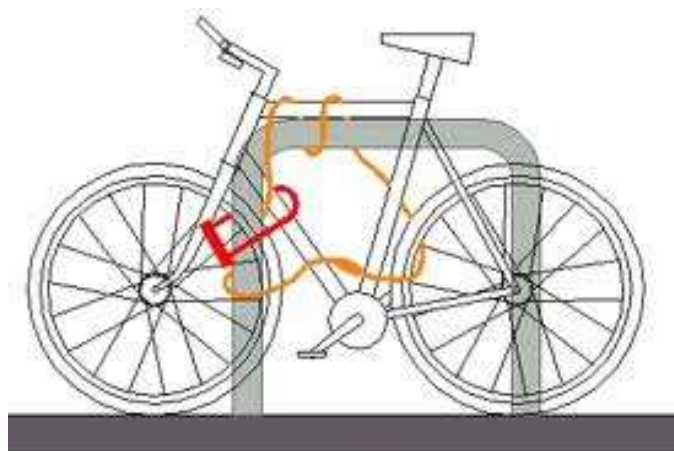


Photo: massbike.org

Yet another scam

Courtesy: <https://www.magistratescourt.vic.gov.au/news/important-notice-about-scam-emails-involving-notices-appear>

Important Notice about 'Scam' Emails Involving Notices to Appear

It has come to the Court's attention that scam emails, directing recipients to report to court and to open an attachment for more information, are infecting recipients' computers with a virus.

These scam emails typically instruct recipients to report to court on a specific day and time, and they often direct the recipient to bring documents and witnesses with them. They also typically warn that the court may proceed in their absence.

The emails also instruct recipients to read a court notice that is attached. The attachment contains a computer virus. Do not open the attachment. Delete the email.

Be on the alert, if you are not involved in a court proceeding, the court **does not communicate with you by email**. The court **does not send unsolicited emails** or requests for personal information. The court **does not send emails threatening to take action against you** if you do not appear in court. Nor does the court **send emails that ask you to open attachments** in order to obtain additional information.

For more information about online scams, contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission at <http://www.scamwatch.gov.au/content/index.phtml/tag/reportascam>

Remember, if you are unsure of the origin of an email, **do not open it**, do not reply to it and **do not click on any links** within the email.

DELETE THE EMAIL IMMEDIATELY

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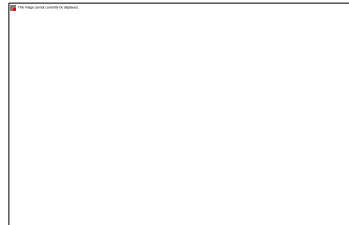
Phone: NHW Whitehorse 0418 596 831

Good Sports

Courtesy: Police Life Autumn 2014



www.rhinorugby.com



www.tonyprycesports.co.uk



www.greenandgoldrugby.com



www.sportsfx.co.uk

A rugby program between police and at-risk youths is breaking down barriers and helping young people learn discipline and respect.

No police member likes coming into contact with a young person for the wrong reason, says Dandenong's Senior Constable Gordon Exner. He knows it can be difficult to break the cycle of offending after a young person comes into contact with the justice system.

He was instrumental in setting up a rugby program in December 2012 to help at-risk youths turn their lives around. The Access Rugby program is a joint initiative between Victoria Police and Melbourne Rebels rugby union club. It engages indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse communities and is running in Mildura, Robinvale, Cardinia, Casey and Greater Dandenong Police Service Areas (PSA's).

More than 4000 young people have taken part in regular rugby sessions run by police and Rebel's players and staff. It is about more than just sport and it involves mentors who pick up the youths from home and take them to counselling sessions. Some have greater needs and we take them to drug or alcohol rehabilitation sessions. The program has helped 300 young people access job training and 45 have found full time employment. It is about them taking small steps to change their lives and for some it can give them a career path.

The rugby training teaches discipline and we tell them that once they've made a commitment to their team-mates, they need to follow through with it. They are expected to turn up on time and wear the correct uniform.

High Tech parking sensors in Whitehorse

Courtesy: Whitehorse Leader 28.4.2014

Drivers who flout parking restrictions in central Box Hill will be targeted by Whitehorse Council as it more than doubles its use of in-ground parking sensors.

The council will increase the number of sensors from 450 to 1000 around the municipality. This will reap the council more than \$500,000 in extra parking fines. Council have used the devices since 2007 in Mitcham, Nunawading, Blackburn and Forest Hill.

Since 1 July 2013, Whitehorse Council has collected \$109,440 from parking fines as a result of electronic monitoring. This is up from \$64,610 in the entire 2012-13 financial year.



- In-ground sensors are buried underground and record when a vehicle comes and goes from a parking bay.
- They emit a signal to nearby parking sensors when a car overstays the time limit.
- Once a vehicle has overstayed, a signal is sent to the nearest parking officer's handheld device.
- The officer checks to see if an offence has occurred before issuing a ticket.



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How can I reduce fuel costs?

Courtesy: RACV magazine May 2014



Remove roof racks and other attachments when they are not being used, as this reduces wind resistance and therefore fuel use.

If your vehicle is running correctly, it will use less fuel and be more reliable. Have it serviced in accordance with the owner's manual and regularly check oil, coolant and other fluid levels. Watch for changes in the way the car handles or sounds, as these could indicate a problem. A smoky exhaust means the engine needs checking. Keep a record of your fuel use, because increasing fuel consumption can also be a sign of a problem. Turn off your engine when stopped for an extended period and not in traffic. Having the engine off, even for a short period, saves more fuel than is lost from the burst of fuel in restarting and the net increase in wear and tear from this practice is negligible. Most cars do not need to be 'warmed up' prior to driving off.



Inflate your tyres to the higher end of the manufacturer's recommended range of pressures and make sure your wheels are properly aligned.

Looking after your tyres also extends their life and improves handling.

Keep your tools locked away

Courtesy: Whitehorse Leader 19.2.2014.

Don't let your tools be the implement used by a criminal to get into your home.

Garage Safety

- Keep your garage and tool shed locked at all times.
- Keep track of your tools. Thefts of items from these areas can go undetected for some time, which makes investigating the crimes and recovery of items harder.
- Keep careful records and photos of mini-monkey bikes and off road bikes.
- Record all serial numbers and engrave parts with your driver's licence number under the letter 'V'
- Don't leave tools or gardening equipment out in the open, they can be used by thieves to break into your home.
- Typical items stolen from garages are bikes, power tools, lawnmowers and sporting equipment.



Fog lights or driving lights?

Courtesy: RACV magazine April 2014.

- **Fog lights** are meant to improve the illumination of the road where adverse weather conditions – fog, snow, heavy rain or dust – impair visibility
- They have a low, flat, wide beam that is meant to illuminate the road below the fog or mist.
- Fog lights must be switched independently from headlights.
- **Driving lights** are designed to supplement the high beam.
- They must be wired to the high beam function so they're extinguished when the high beam is dipped.
- You must not use high beam (including driving lights) when less than 200m behind a vehicle travelling in the same direction or from an oncoming vehicle.

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Not all thieves are stupid

Editor from email.



I never thought of this.....A lady has now changed her habit of how she lists her names on her cell phone after her handbag was stolen. Her handbag, which contained her cell phone, credit card, wallet, etc., was stolen. Twenty minutes later when she called her hubby, from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says, "I received your text asking about our Pin number and I've replied a little while ago." When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen cell phone to text "hubby" in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

Moral of the lesson:

- Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. **Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, Sweetheart, Dad, Mum, etc.**
- And very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked through texts, **CONFIRM** by calling back.
- When you're being texted by friends or family to meet them somewhere, be sure to **call back to confirm** that the message came from them. If you don't reach them, be very careful about going places to meet "family and friends" who text you.

They might not be the family or friends you expected.

L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program

Courtesy: Whitehorse Manningham Councils brochure.

L2P program is a Manningham/Whitehorse learner driver mentor program and is a community based, volunteer program. It was developed to provide access to driving practice for learner drivers who face significant barriers to gaining their 120 hours of driving practice, required to obtain a probationary licence.

There are a number of young people who will have considerable difficulty in gaining access to the required driving instruction and practice, due to non availability of a vehicle of supervising driver on an ongoing basis.

Learner drivers are matched with fully licensed community volunteers. Using a sponsored vehicle, the learner and their mentor go out driving, working towards the 120 hours of driving practice.

L2P also incorporates up to five free professional driving lessons by a registered driving instructor. This is to ensure the young driver have some driving skills before being matched with a mentor. Mentor volunteers from the community undertake a selection and training process to fulfill the role as a supervising driver. Mentors develop and maintain a purposeful, empowering supportive and ongoing relationship with the young person, for at least one hour per week.

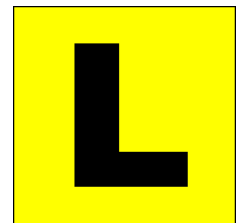
L2P is for young people aged 16-21 years with a current learners permit but without access to a vehicle or supervising driver to achieve 120 hours of supervised driving experience.

Young people can be referred to the program by youth agencies, schools, parents or can refer themselves. There is no charge to participate in the program.

For more information contact Melanie Burgess, L2P Project Officer.

Phone: 9846 0537 mobile 0408 759 028

Email: manningham.vic.gov.au



Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse – Contact Us

If ever you wish to contact the NHW Whitehorse Committee, please email us at whitehorse@nhw.com.au or phone Ray Summers (President) on 0418 596 831 or Allison Summers (Secretary) on 0413 188 049. We would love your feedback, suggestions of how to make things better and general insights into how you see NHW is going in your area.

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